

SENATOR BROMM: Yes, I would and then I will give what I have left to Senator Chambers if he would like it. I think the committees whose chairpersons are designated were felt to be those who might be most clearly and directly impacted by the tax legislation that we may adopt this year and that's the only rationale there was for those particular committee heads. And, Mr. Chairperson, if I could allow Senator Chambers to continue with his questioning or comments.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: You may, sir. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Senator Bromm, again, my asking the questions that I am and phrasing them the way that I do is not designed to disparage anybody who might happen to be a chairperson now or will be one next session when we come back. But would you not agree that persons are not elected in most instances to be chairperson because of any particular expertise in that area but rather because of the internal politicking that always takes place in the Legislature? And I don't mean that in a disparaging way, but trying to address the realism involved with how people wind up being chairpersons. Let me ask it a different way, having gotten that into the record by way of a question which will be rhetorical and not requiring an answer. Is it your view that the persons who chair committees know more about these issues and have a greater interest and concern and their constituents would be more directly impacted than all the other senators who are not chairpersons?

SENATOR BROMM: In general, no, I would not...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is it...

SENATOR BROMM: ...say that they were.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is it conceivable to you that somebody who is not a chairperson could contribute as much to the work of this task force based on his or her intelligence, drive, and work ethic as anybody who happens to be a chairperson of a committee?

SENATOR BROMM: And as well as their tenacity and their "stick-to-it-ness" and their energy and their experience and their age and...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And their gray hair: (Laugh)